Survey of Pollution in Uttar Pradesh

829. KUMARI ALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey of pollution in Uttar Pradesh has been conducted;

(b) if so, the details of Districts and Cities where this survey was conducted;

(c) the cities and districts which were found to be adversely affected by air pollution;

(d) whether Faizabad District is one of the adversely polluted districts in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the steps contemplated by Government to make Faizabad district free of air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey of ambient air quality was conducted by the U.P. Pollution Control Board in the cities of Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Anpara and Dehra Dun in 1989.

(c) The survey reveals that sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are well within the prescribed ambient air quality limits; the levels of suspended particulate matter are on the higher side, in all the cities survey except Anpara. This pollution is largely caused by natural dusty conditions.

(d) No ambient air quality survey has been conducted for Faizabad.

(e) Does not arise.

Progress of Social Forestry Programme

830. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched several programmes in order to encourage social forestry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and the progress made under these programmes during the last three calender years;

(c) whether involvement of social workers and voluntary organizations in these programmes has also been ensured;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an incident of refusal of sappling/offered under these programmes by voluntary organizations at Kochi in Ernakulam District;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and the circumstances under which such refusal had taken place; and

(f) what steps Government propose to take to stop discouragement to such social organizations and workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Afforestation and tree planting activities, which include Social forestry, are being undertaken under various Central and State Plan schemes. The progress of the last three years is given below:

	1987-88 (in million hectares)	1988-89 (in million hectares)
Targets . . .	1.79	2.00
Achievements . .	1.77	2.12

The target for 1989-90 is 1.71 million hectares, which is expected to be achieved.

(c) Voluntary organizations are being involved in Social forestry activities. Financial assistance is provided for this purpose under the Grants-in-aid scheme of the National Waste-